

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed April 19, 2004, in the above identified pending application, the examiner set forth a requirement for election of species under 35 USC 121. Specifically, the examiner has noted the presence of three disclosed embodiments shown respectively in applicants' as-filed drawing FIGURES 1-6 (Species A); FIGS. 7-12 (Species B); and FIGS. 16-21 (Species C).

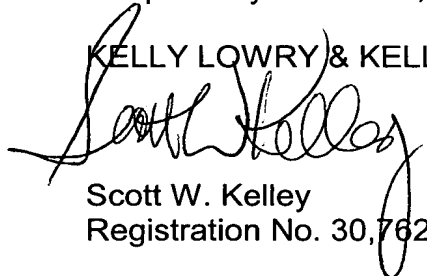
In response, applicant hereby elects the embodiment shown in FIGS. 16-21 (Species C) for further examination on the merits in this application. Applicants identify claims 1-3, 7-16 and 42-53 as reading on the elected species, or otherwise generic to all of the disclosed species in this application.

This election is without traverse, and without prejudice to pursuing the subject matter of the nonelected species in one or more timely filed divisional applications.

In accordance with the revised PTO amendment practice, effective July 30, 2003, these Remarks are preceded by a listing of all pending claims 1-53 in this application, wherein the claims 1-3, 7-16 and 42-53 readable on the elected species are designated "(original)" and wherein the remaining claims 4-6 and 17-41 are retained in the listing but designated "(withdrawn)".

Respectfully submitted,

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